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Attorney Docket No.: AM-5850

\$2881

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Matthew J. Jolley et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/905,561

FILED: July 13, 2001

FOR: PATTERN GENERATION METHOD
AND APPARATUS USING CACHED CELLS
OF HIERARCHICAL DATA

§ GROUP ART UNIT: 2881

§

§ EXAMINER: K. Fernandez

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§ Attorney Docket No.:

§ AM-5850

Date: April 26, 2004

AMENDMENT "B"
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Mail Stop Amendment (With Fee)
Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

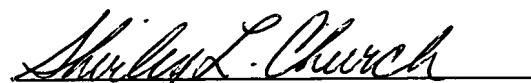
This Amendment "B" is in response to the Office Action mailed November 24, 2003, having a shortened statutory period of response of February 24, 2004. A Petition for a Two Month Extension of Time to Respond accompanies this Amendment "B", to extend the time for response through April 26, 2004.

Claims 1 - 34 are pending in the application, with Claims 15 - 22 being withdrawn under a restriction requirement.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.10

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as U.S. EXPRESS MAIL NO. ER534275351US in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Box Amendment (With Fee), Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

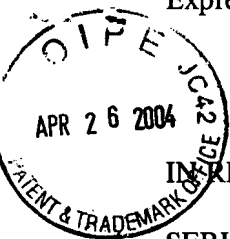
Date: April 26, 2004


Shirley L. Church, Reg. No. 31,858

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1 - 34 are under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,543,044 issued to Inanami et al. and U.S. Patent No. 5,995,878 issued to Miyajima. The Examiner has withdrawn the restriction requirement under which Claims 15 - 22 were previously withdrawn, reinstating these claims into the pending claims.

The Examiner has also objected to a recitation that an element is “configured to” perform a function and the Examiner is refusing to consider such a recitation as constituting a claim limitation, although there is no claim rejection based on 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Please amend the application as follows:



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§ Attorney Docket No.:

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Date: April 26, 2004

**AMENDMENT "B" UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111
TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

**Mail Stop Amendment (With Fee)
Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450**

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is applicants' Amendment "B" in response to the Office Action mailed November 24, 2003, having a shortened statutory period for response of February 24, 2004. This Amendment "B" is accompanied by a Petition for a Two Month Extension of Time, to extend the period for response through April 26, 2004.

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as U.S. EXPRESS MAIL NO. ER534275351US in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment (With Fee), Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: April 26, 2004


Shirley L. Church, Reg. No. 31,858

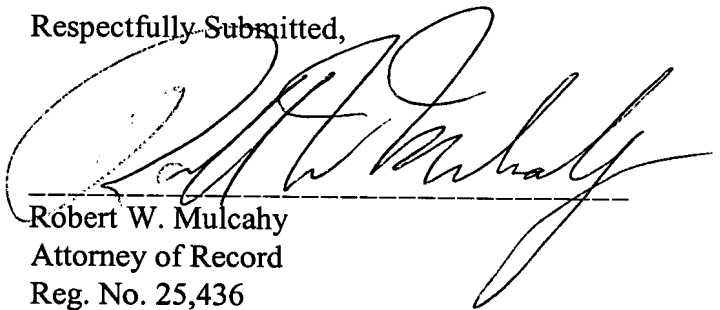
CLAIMS AS AMENDED

| | CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER <u>AMENDMENT</u> | | HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY <u>PAID FOR</u> | | PRESENT <u>EXTRA</u> | <u>RATE</u> | ADDITIONAL <u>FEE</u> |
|--------------------------------|--|-------|--|---|-------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| TOTAL CLAIMS | 34 | minus | 34 | = | 0 | x \$18.00 | \$00.00 |
| INDEPENDENT CLAIMS | 12 | minus | 12 | = | 0 | x \$84.00 | \$00.00 |
| MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS | | | 0 | | | \$280.00 | \$00.00 |
| TWO MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME | | | | | | | \$420.00 |
| | | | | | | TOTAL FEE DUE | \$420.00 |

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the amount of \$ 420.00, in payment of the fee for the Two Month Extension of Time, as well as any additional fees which may be due, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 50-1074 of Applied Materials, Inc., Santa Clara, California.

This transmittal letter is submitted in duplicate for accounting purposes.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert W. Mulcahy
Attorney of Record
Reg. No. 25,436

Correspondence Address:
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Santa Clara, California 95052